

SENATE RESOLUTION 142

By Gardenhire

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Senator Ward Crutchfield.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Senator Ward Crutchfield; and

WHEREAS, a 1946 graduate of the McCallie School, William "Ward" Crutchfield attended the University of Chattanooga, now the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and received a Juris Doctor from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, College of Law, in 1951; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crutchfield served his country in the United States Army and received an honorable discharge; and

WHEREAS, Ward Crutchfield served the 10th Senate District of Tennessee, which includes Hamilton and Marion counties, as a Democratic member of the Tennessee Senate from 1963 to 1967 and 1987 to 2007; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crutchfield acted as Senate Majority Leader during the 101st through 103rd General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Senator Ward Crutchfield was a strong supporter of education, and he was deeply committed to improving the quality of life for the people of the 10th Senate District; and

WHEREAS, as a senator, Mr. Crutchfield was able to secure funding for the engineering building at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and he was a staunch supporter of the Chattanooga Zoo; and

WHEREAS, Ward Crutchfield also served as a member of the House of Representatives from 1957 to 1959 and 1961 to 1963; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crutchfield was well known for his work in civil rights and with the African-American community. In the 1950s, Senator Crutchfield brought one of the first African

Americans since reconstruction, a man named C. B. Robinson, onto the floor of the Tennessee General Assembly; C. B. Robinson later went on to serve in the legislature as a state representative for Chattanooga from 1974 to 1992; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crutchfield's family was among the first settlers of Hamilton County, and, throughout his life, Ward Crutchfield remained committed to the people of his community; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the life of this dedicated public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Senator Ward Crutchfield.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Senator Crutchfield.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.